

Subject: Antiquated Standards of Morse Code in the US

To whom it may concern,

In response to the petition filed by Ronald D. Lowrence on updating the Morse Code system in the United States, I hereby submit my recommendations.

As a HAM radio operator in the USA and the UK, I question the need for mandatory Morse code proficiency in the United States. Since most countries have abandoned the use of this language, why is it still necessary here? Morse code was originally used for ships in distress in the old days. This need is now obsolete. Please reconsider this rule as it keeps many radio amateurs from pursuing their licenses.

I also don't believe this has anything to do with the Department of Homeland Security. Using Morse Code wouldn't secure our assurance of communications as amateur radio operators in times of emergency. This is absolutely ludicrous! The only reason that one would want to keep this antiquated system is because they are very old-fashioned and are unwilling to change with the times.

Furthermore, I don't understand why one would want to add insult to injury and want to change from five to thirteen words per minute. This makes matters only worse. I believe morse should be voluntary if one wants to but not have to be forced upon everyone.